

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03

ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 /084 W

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R 211833Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1472

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USNMR SHAPE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

CINCUSNAVEUR

USLO SACLANT NORFOLK VIRGINIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 18849

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, FR, CSCE, UR

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR:
EUROPEAN DEFENSE

1. QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR DE LABOULAYE COMMENTED TO
CHARGE ON EUROPEAN DEFENSE MATTERS DURING LUNCHEON JULY
21. HE SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S
PROJECTED VISIT TO GERMANY AND HIS PLANS TO REVIEW U.S.
TROOPS THERE LATE THIS MONTH. HE THOUGHT THAT THIS
GESTURE, COMING JUST BEFORE THE HELSINKI SUMMIT, WOULD
SEND A CLEAR MESSAGE TO MOSCOW THAT THE SPIRIT OF
DETENTE WOULD NOT CAUSE THE U.S. TO LOWER ITS DEFENSES
IN EUROPE.

2. LABOULAYE SAID HE HOPED PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO
BAVARIA WOULD NOT RPT NOT SEND A SECOND MESSAGE TO THE
SOVIETS, NAMELY, THAT THE U.S. AND USSR ALONE SHOULD
DECIDE QUESTIONS OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE. UNDERLINING HIS
OWN BELIEF THAT A STRONG EUROPEAN DEFENSE PILLAR SHOULD
BE ERECTED ALONGSIDE THE AMERICAN PILLAR WITHIN NATO,
LABOULAYE OBSERVED THAT GISCARD'S RECENT STATEMENTS
PUTTING OFF FOR THE PRESENT CONSIDERATION OF EUROPEAN
DEFENSE COOPERATION SHOULD NOT BE JUDGED AN IMMUTABLE
POSITION. HE THOUGHT THAT IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT
FUTURE, BOTH THE AMERICANS AND EUROPEANS MIGHT BE
FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT A STRONG EUROPEAN DEFENSE
POSTURE WAS REQUIRED TO PROTECT JOINT AND INDIVIDUAL
INTERESTS. HE VERY MUCH HOPED THAT THE U.S. WOULD NOT,
IN A MISTAKEN EFFORT TO PURSUE DETENTE, GIVE THE USSR
ANY SIGN THAT IT WISHED TO DOWNGRADE THE ROLE OF
EUROPE IN DEFENSE OF THE WEST.

3. REPLYING TO A QUESTION, LABOULAYE SAID GISCARD
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WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS PLUTON WITH SCHMIDT DURING
THEIR UPCOMING BILATERAL MEETING, BUT THAT THE QUESTION
WAS NOT ON THE AGENDA AND THAT THE FRENCH DEFENSE
MINISTER WILL NOT ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT. HE INDICATED
THAT CURRENT FRENCH THINKING ON PLUTON IS AS RECENTLY

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SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NSC-05 SS-15 /084 W

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R 211833Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1473

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 18849

INDICATED BY DEFENSE MINISTER BOURGES, I.E. THAT
FRANCE IS NOT PLANNING ON STAGING PLUTON IN GERMANY,
BUT THAT PLUTON WOULD IN A CRISIS SITUATION MOVE WHERE
FORWARD COMBAT CONSIDERATIONS MIGHT DICTATE.

4. LABOULAYE ALSO MENTIONED THE DESIRABILITY OF JOINT
EUROPEAN ARMAMENTS PRODUCTION. HE SAID THAT FRANCE
WOULD BE PREPARED TO COOPERATE FULLY IN NATO STANDARD-
IZATION EFFORTS PROVIDED IT CAN BE ASSURED THAT A JOINT
EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL ARMAMENT EFFORT WOULD BE IMPLEMENT-
ED AND HONORED.

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NATO
MOSCOW
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN

ATHENS
ROME
LUXEMBOURG
THE HAGUE
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